Appln. No. 10/631,101

RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER

APR 2 5 2008

REMARKS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 3, 5 through 19, and 21 through 50 remain in this application. Claims 4, 20 and 36 have been cancelled. No claims have been withdrawn. No claims are added here.

On February 7, 2008, a Request for Continued Examination was filed in the present case requesting that the amendments in the response filed March 27, 2007 (which in turn were in response to a final Office Action mailed January 24, 2007) be entered and considered.

The Examiner kindly contacted the undersigned and indicated that the amendments in the March 27, 2008 amendment, while not entered at the time, were considered and the Examiner did not consider those amendments to the claims to present any different issues as to the examination of the claims.

On March 18, 2008, the undersigned filed a "Supplemental Amendment" for the claims of the present case, which, among other things, amended claims 16, 17, 28, 32, 33, and added claims 49 and 50. A check of the Public PAIRS database on the present date (i.e., April 24, 2008) shows that the Supplemental Amendment is indicated as having been received by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (U.S.P.T.O.) on March 18, 2008 in the Image File Wrapper tab, however the same Supplemental Amendment does not appear on the Transaction History tab.

The pending Office Action mailed April 7, 2008 does not appear to address the amendments made in the earlier-submitted Supplemental Amendment of March 18, 2008, and this may be explained by the absence of the Supplemental Amendment on the Transaction History, although it is

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noted that the Image File Wrapper does show the receipt of the Supplemental Amendment. A print of the Supplemental Amendment from the Image File Wrapper is attached to this response, and it is noted that the first page includes the U.S.P.T.O. stamp "RECEIVED CENTRAL FAX CENTER MAR 18, 2008".

It is submitted that the Amendments made to the claims made in the Supplemental Amendment advance the prosecution of this application by further distinguishing the invention from the cited patents and publications. Therefore, reconsideration of the rejections set forth in the Office Action of April 7, 2008 is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Date: APRIL 24, 2008

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early reconsideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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